

Message Text

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PAGE 01 OSLO 00881 011527Z

67

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 AEC-11 AID-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00

CIEP-02 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-11 FEA-02 FPC-01 H-03

INR-10 INT-08 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 OMB-01 PM-07 RSC-01

SAM-01 SCI-06 SPC-03 SS-20 STR-08 TRSE-00 PA-04 PRS-01

USIA-15 DRC-01 /188 W

----- 082074

R 011428Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY OSLO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7893

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION OECD PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L OSLO 881

STATE ALSO FOR T/IEP

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG NO

SUBJECT: NORWEGIAN REACTIONS: FIRST MEETING OF ENERGY COORDINATING
GROUP

REF: (A) STATE 37858; (B) OSLO 782

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1. UNDER SECRETARY OF STATE ARNESEN, WHO ATTENDED FIRST MEETING

OF ENERGY COORDINATING GROUP, SAID MEETING WAS CONDUCTED IN A GOOD ATMOSPHERE DEVOID OF POLITICAL CONSIDERATIONS AND ESTABLISHED A GOOD BASIS FOR FUTURE WORK. HE WAS PARTICULARLY PLEASED WITH AGREEMENT REACHED ON USE OF OECD AND WITH CONTINUED SUCCESS IN AVOIDING ANY HINT OF A CONFRONTATION WITH PRODUCER COUNTRIES.

2. FOLLOWING THE FEBRUARY 25 MEETING, ARNESEN SPENT DAY IN NEW YORK WHERE NORWEGIAN MINISTER OF COMMERCE EVENSEN IS ATTENDING A LAW OF THE SEA PREPARATORY MEETING (REF B). IN NEW YORK ARNESEN TALKED TO A NUMBER OF LDC COUNTRY REPRESENTATIVES AT THE UN. HE SAID LDCS WERE NONCOMMITTAL ABOUT WASHINGTON ENERGY CONFERENCE AND POST-CONFERENCE ARRANGEMENTS. HE ATTRIBUTED THIS TO THEIR OCCUPATION WITH PREPARATIONS FOR THE FORTHCOMING SPECIAL SESSION OF THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND DID NOT BELIEVE IT REFLECTED A NEGATIVE ATTITUDE TOWARD THE ENERGY CONFERENCE OR CONSULTATIVE GROUP MEETING.

3. ARNESEN STILL SEES NO CONFLICT BETWEEN THE UN MEETING AND THE SEPARATE MEETING OF PRODUCER AND CONSUMER COUNTRIES BUT BELIEVES AN EFFORT SHOULD BE MADE TO MAKE SURE THEY DO NOT "COLLIDE" IN ANY WAY. HE NOTED THAT AGREEMENT MUST STILL BE REACHED ON HOW TO DEMONSTRATE INTEREST IN LDC CONCERNS, ON HOW TO BRING THE LDCS INTO THE PRODUCER/CONSUMER CONFERENCE, AND ON HOW TO APPROACH BOTH THE LDCS AND THE PRODUCERS. HE HAD NO SUGGESTIONS TO OFFER ON THESE POINTS, BUT SAID NORWAY WAS LOOKING INTO THEM.

4. ARNESEN SAID THAT THE CONSULTATIVE GROUP HAD NOT AGREED UPON THE TERMS OF REFERENCE SET FORTH IN REF A AT THE FEBRUARY 25 MEETING. THE TERMS OF REFERENCE HAD BEEN DISCUSSED, BUT FINAL AGREEMENT ON THEM WAS PUT OFF UNTIL THE MARCH 13-14 MEETING. EMBASSY INDICATED THAT ITS REPORT ON THE FEBRUARY 25 MEETING (REF A) INDICATED THE TERMS OF REFERENCE HAD BEEN LARGELY AGREED UPON, ALTHOUGH REPORT DID NOT SAY SO DEFINITELY. ARNESEN SAID THAT HE WAS RAISING ISSUE ONLY AS A POINT OF ORDER. BYRNE

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